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Executive Regiony

17 January 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

FROM: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Reporting on Third World Military Issues

Is there any way we can put a crash program, even going to overt sources as a starter, to give lead to Station Chiefs and analysts to fill in the gaps, at least to some extent on our knowledge of military in Third World countries as revealed in your survey precipitated by the coup in Nigeria.

William J. Casey



DDI #00195-84/1 11 January 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

Executive Director

Deputy Director for Operations

FROM

Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT

Reporting on Third World Military Issues

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1. The coup in Nigeria brings home once again just how little we know about military politics in Third World countries. Moreover, we lack biographic information on most military officials below the most senior levels in the Third World. This is an issue we are trying to get at working with both the Defense attaches and the Military Assistance Advisory Groups, as well as the DDO.

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2. In any case, I asked for a chart reflecting analysts' perception of available information on the military (non-Order of Battle) in some 80 Third World countries. That chart is attached and I think you will find it dismaying. The "unsatisfactory" column simply means there is very little information at all from any source. Where we have some information, indicated in the column marked "satisfactory", I have asked that the analyst spell out where they are getting the information. I think you will find the chart of interest. We will be following up with the collectors.

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Robert H. Gates

Attachment:
As Stated

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